

## CALIFORNIA GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF EMERGENCY SERVICES FLASH INCIDENT REPORT

EVENT NAME: Erskine Vegetation Fire, Lake Isabella, Kern County (This report may contain unconfirmed information)

DATE/TIME OF REPORT: 06/27/16 at 1800 hours

DATE/TIME OF EVENT: 06/23/16 at 1557 hours

LOCATION: Erskine Creek Rd & Apollo Way, Lake Isabella

IMPACT OF EVENT: Moderate

### **SITUATION OVERVIEW:**

Per ICS-209:

Acres Burned to Date: 45,388 acres

Contained: 45%

Start Date and Time: 06/23/16 1557 hours

Fire Cause: Unknown

Structures Threatened: 2,500

Total Structures Destroyed: 257

Single Residences: 257

Non-residential: 0

Other minor structures: 0

Structures Damaged: 75

Estimated Contained (date): 07/05/16

Fuel Types: Brush, small and large trees

Event Summary- The Erskine Fire is burning in the Lake Isabella area of Kern County. The fire is expected to remain active and spotting is possible because of diurnal winds. Planned actions are to continue to prepare and protect threatened structures; construct and improve containment lines; and mop up where it can be accomplished safely. As of 1900 hours on 6/27/16, per InciWeb: Incident Information System, there are 2,079 (+367) fire fighters on scene. The fire started on Bureau Land Management (BLM) managed public lands at the junction of Erskine Creek Rd and Apollo. The cause of the fire is under investigation.

### **Fire Information**

The Incident Command Post is located at Camp 9, Sequoia National Forest. As of 1000 hours on 06/27/16:

2 confirmed fatalities

- Several missing

- 50 OES Engines
- 59 Local Government Engines
- 1 Support Unit
- 2 Cal OES Fire and Rescue Division Assistant Chief (5212 and 5215)
- 2 Public Safety Technicians
- Cal OES Acting Deputy Regional Administrator to Kern Co. EOC
- Cal OES Acting Regional Administrator to Kern Co. EOC

### **Community Meeting**

A second Community Meeting is scheduled for tonight at 1800 hours at Woodrow Wallace Elementary School at 3240 Erskine Creek Road, Lake Isabella

### **Transition Center**

Tomorrow, 6/28/16, at 12 noon a Transition Center will be opened to support the repopulation effort. Normal hours of operation will be from 0900-1800. The location of the Center is Woodrow Wallace Middle School at 3240 Erskine Creek Road, Lake Isabella, CA. The Center will include a host of services to assist in residents in recovery operations. Additional homeowner re-entry information is available at <http://inciweb.nwccg.gov/incident/article/4806/31217/> and includes ash and burn debris clean-up and removal recommendations and emergency disinfection of drinking water instructions.

### **Call Center – (661) 873-2660**

- Call Center is operational as of 6/26/16 at 1730 hours, to relay information to those who have been affected by the fire. Hours for the call center will be 0800 to 2000 hours, daily until further notice. The call center is staffed by 211 and public health employees, with bilingual capabilities.

### **Activations**

- Cal OES State Emergency Operations Center activated at Level 3 with an Operational Period of 0700-1900 hours.
- Kern County EOC activated at Level 2 with an Operational Period of 0700 – 2000 hours.
- A JIC has been established
- Cal OES Law Emergency Operations Center (LEOC) has been activated
- Cal OES Fire and Rescue Emergency Operations Center (Fire EOC) will be activated 0600-1800 hours until further notice.
- ESF 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 10 and 13 activated and have presences in the SOC.
- Agency Representatives in SOC from FEMA and CUEA.

### **Proclamations**

- Kern County proclaimed a local emergency on 6/23/16
- A State of Emergency was proclaimed on 6/24/16
- An Fire Management Assistance Grant (FMAG) 5131 approved on 6/23/16

**Deployments**

- 5 ESCs have been deployed to Kern County
- 2 Law Branch AC
- 1 Cal OES PIO
- 2 Public Safety Communications Technicians
- 2 Individual Assistance (IA) Liaisons Deployed for Initial Damage Estimates

**Access and Functional Needs (AFN)**

- One Functional Assessment Support Team (FAST) member [has been demobilized from the shelter. Mission has been closed.](#)
- Kern Regional Transit is at the shelters to transport AFN community members
- Red Cross provided one AFN trailer and an AFN specialist to the shelter
- [American Sign Language \(ASL\) interpreter available at the EOC.](#)
- [Cal OES Representative is working with local AFN Representative from Kern County Public Guardian Jeremy Oliver to assess evacuation assistance, if needed.](#)

**Critical Infrastructure (including Hospital and Medical Facilities)**

- Kern Valley Hospital closed, no other structures threatened at this time.

**Emergency Management****Evacuations**

[Evacuations remain in effect for:](#)

- [Squirrel Mt Valley](#)
- [South Lake](#)

**Repopulations**

[The Fire Management Team has lifted some of the Evacuation Orders. At 1200 hours on 6/27/16, the following areas will be available for people to return to their homes \(There's no power to these areas and bottled water will be available\):](#)

- [Yankee Canyon](#)
- [Mountain Mesa](#)

**Evacuation also lifted (These areas have electrical power):**

- [Areas east of South Lake along Hwy 178](#)
- [Larson Tract](#)
- [Navajo](#)
- [Hillview Acres](#)
- [Bella Vista](#)
- [Weldon](#)

**Road Closures**

- [Entrada and Hwy 178](#)
- [McCray Rd and Dogwood](#)
- [Kelso Valley Rd.](#)
- [Kelso Creek Rd](#)

[All Hwy 178 is opened today 06/27/16](#)

## **Health and Medical**

A boil water notice was issued. Boil water notice may be lifted as early as 6/29/16, depending on conditions.

- Water systems under boil water notice include:
  - Cal Water Service - Southlake-Squirrel Valley System
  - Cal Water Service - Mountain Mesa Water Company
  - [Cal Water Service – Onyx Water System](#)
  - South Fork Elementary School Water System
  - South Fork Middle School
  - Tradewinds Water Association
  - Hillview Acres Mutual Water Company
  - Lakeview Ranchos Mutual Water Company
  - Long Canyon Water Company Water System
- Per Cal EPA, Precautionary Do Not Drink Notice issued for the following water systems:
  - Sierra Vista Restaurant Water System
  - Lake Isabella KOA Campground
  - South Fork Women's Club Water System
  - Rainbird Valley Mutual Water Company
  - [Paradise Cove Lodge Water System](#)

## **Air Quality**

- The Eastern Kern Air Pollution Control District is recommending that children, older individuals, and those with pre-existing heart and lung problems should avoid outdoor activity if smoke is in the immediate area.
- The County Public Health Dept. identified a significant threat to public safety due to hazmat, asbestos and heavy metal contamination common to the ashes from burned structures. Residents will be urged to exercise caution and wear N-95 masks and gloves when sifting through the burned remains of their homes. [Warning notices, gloves and N-95 masks will be provided to shelter staff for distribution to displaced residents and will be available at the Transition Center;](#) the Kern EOC will initiate public information operations at the JIC to widely disseminate the warning.
- [Air Resources Board mobilized 6 portable air quality monitors and monitoring smoke impacts in the impacted area.](#)

## **Mental Health**

- [County Mental Health services are being provided at the shelter and will be incorporated into the Transition Center](#)

## **Schools**

- All are closed for summer. No summer school at this time.

## **Shelters**

Primary: Kernville Elementary School

- 13359 Sierra Way, Kernville, CA
- Capacity: 150
- Overnight populations: [74](#)

Secondary: St. Jude Catholic Church

- 86 Nellie Dent Drive, Wofford Heights, CA
- Capacity: 150
- Overnight populations: [7](#)

Staff Shelter: Kern River Valley Senior Center

- 6404 Lake Isabella Boulevard, Lake Isabella, CA
- [The Chief of the Kern County Fire Department is providing daily briefings in each shelter with the ARC Job Director.](#)
- [Updates are being posted on the shelter information boards and being distributed at the registration tables.](#)
- [1<sup>st</sup> wave of shelter supplies arrived including AFN showers and port-o-potties.](#)
- [CERT and American Red Cross are running the shelters.](#)
- [Kernville Elementary will now be the primary shelter location; St. Jude Catholic Church is the secondary shelter.](#)
- [Kern County is providing transportation to the shelters through Kern Regional Transit, and has AFN transportation capabilities. The number to the general public is 1-800-277-7866.](#)
- [American Red Cross has 7 shelter trailers in the area and can bring more.](#)
- [County Mental Health deployed MET teams to the evacuation area and responded to requests from shelter managers to provide services to distressed evacuees.](#)
  - [On Sunday 06/26/16 The County Mental Health manager will assess whether additional mental health resources are needed.](#)
- [2 medical personnel are assigned to each shelter 24 hours a day](#)
- [AT&T volunteers are delivering 2 charging stations and bottled water to shelters](#)

## **Animal Shelters**

- Kern County Animal Services is assisting with animal sheltering operations. Domestic animals are being housed next to the shelter at Kernville Elementary.
- River Kern Kennel is sheltering large animals.

## **OA Mission Support Requests/Cal OES Mission Tasking**

- 2016-FIRE-24581: Fixed wing C-12 air transport for personnel to fire location. [\(On Site\)](#)
- 2016-SOC-24608: Additional non-profit and state resources being provided by EMSA, CDSS, DGS, CDPH, [FEMA Region IX](#) and ARC. (Ongoing)
- 2016-SOC-24615: 2 AFN showers for Kernville Elementary School Shelter [\(On Site\)](#)

- 2016-SOC-24616: 2 AFN showers for St. Jude Catholic Church Shelter (1 Onsite, 1 En Route, ETA 6/27/16 at 1900 hours)
- 2016-SOC-24626: 1 AFN port-o-potty for Kernville Elementary School Shelter (On Site) also 1 cooling system and generator (Coordinating)
- 2016-SOC-24630: 1 AFN port-o-potty for St. Jude Catholic Church Shelter (On Site) also 1 cooling system and generator (Coordinating)
- Mission Number Pending: 10 walkers, 2 manual wheelchairs, 2 bariatric wheelchairs requested (Delivered to Bakersfield and will be delivered to ARC, ETA 1900 hours)
- 2016-LAW-24613: 8 Cal OES Search and Rescue K-9 teams dispatched to search for casualties (On Site)
  - K-9 Search and Rescue Teams search for casualties daily and are expected to continue until 6/30/16. No additional casualties have been found.

### Utilities

- Southern California Edison has representatives in the EOC.
- CUEA is reporting that approximately 700 (2,300 restored) customers are without power. A timeline to restore service is being developed today incorporating fire conditions and lack of access. By the end 6/26/16, 72 of approximately 200 service poles and 11 of 25 transmission poles have been replaced.
- Additional repair crews and materials have been moved to make repairs.
- Electrical services will be restored with priority given to key facilities such as: police, fire and hospitals pending clearance from the fire authority to do so.

### Recovery

#### Initial Damage Estimates and Preliminary Damage Information:

- A damage inspection team including Cal OES staff and local representatives are on standby to identify all structures damaged or destroyed. Windshield surveys are continuing. The number of residences destroyed and/or damaged changed due to more thorough inspections. The damage inspection teams have nearly completed their assessments and should have a completed report by end of shift on 6/28/16.

This report will be updated as information becomes available.

POINT OF CONTACT: California State Warning Center  
916-845-8911

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